

Agnes Elizabeth, Phoebe Jannett, Mary May and George Richard.

GEORGE SMITH

The life history of George Smith reads somewhat like an exciting novel and forms a very interesting biography.

George Smith was born January 8, 1852, in Beddingham, Sussex, England, son of William and Eliza Reed Smith. He had one sister, two brothers and four half-brothers and sisters. At the age of nine years he quit school and worked to help maintain the family. He was placed out with a family of farmers to learn that occupation and worked his apprenticeship, which was the custom in the old country. He has a certificate of honor, showing that he worked for this farmer nine years without missing a week's work. That apprenticeship shaped his entire life, as you will see when you read on.

While working at this farm he met a young lady by the name of Hannah Louise Turner. She belonged to the Church and in due time he went to Church with her and heard a missionary preach. That missionary happened to be George Burton of Midway, Utah, who was then in England on a mission. On June 6, 1871, he was baptized into the Church. The ordinance was performed in a large bathtub, as the saints were severely persecuted when they held public baptismal services.

On August 3, 1871, he married this Hannah Turner, and on October 22, the same year, they left England for America. His only earthly possession was a large feather bed he carried on his back to the railroad station, a distance of several miles.

George Smith's mother died a year before he joined the Church. She belonged to the Church of England. His father and his father's brothers were very bitter against Mormonism. An uncle told him he would sooner see him die than to come to Utah with the Mormons. All these arguments and threats did not change his course in life, but sealed and clinched his testimony of the divinity of the gospel he had espoused.

They arrived in New York that fall, came direct by train, reaching Ogden in November. He had exactly five cents in his pocket when he arrived there, which he spent for

a loaf of bread, and they still had their only possession—the feather mattress.

They stayed a few days with his wife's relatives. While there, Uncle Nymphus Murdock of Charleston sent word to Ogden that he would like to hire an emigrant farmer to feed cattle. George Smith had that preparation to accept the position. So in December, P. A. Murdock brought George and his wife to Charleston. They lived with Uncle Nymphus about a year, when they bought a little home of their own.

It wasn't long before George Smith owned more than 100 acres of land in Charleston. He later homesteaded a tract of land in Daniel, where the Lawrence Anderson home now stands. He then commenced a business of buying and selling farm produce. He bought produce and livestock from the farmers of the valley and peddled the same to the mining camps and in Salt Lake City. He made a trip once a week to Salt Lake with butter from the Charleston Creamery and never missed a trip for five years, traveling through all kinds of weather and often making his own roads.

On one occasion, when it seemed impossible to raise a dollar from any source, he went to Springville and bought 900 dozen eggs and a wagon box full of oats. He put a layer of oats alternately with layers of eggs in the wagon box and hauled them to Park City on a bobsleigh in the middle of winter. He sold both the eggs and oats for a good price. A snowslide in Provo Canyon almost claimed his life at that time.

On another occasion he bought 200 hogs in this valley and, with the help of several boys, drove them to Salt Lake City and marketed them. It took ten days to drive those hogs into Salt Lake City—the only known instance of railing hogs in the state, although it was quite commonly done in England, and that could have been where he got his idea.

This man's life was full of such instances. He never missed an opportunity to make a dollar to thus provide for his large families. To this union were born seven children: Agnes Marie (Lue), Eliza (Dot), George William, David Mahonri, Mabel, Ruby and Sylvan Lewis.

The good mother of this family passed away at the birth of Sylvan. Later George

1896 he bought a small herd of sheep from Jimmie (Scotie) Dawson and from this small beginning he became one of Utah's leading sheepmen. He also helped to organize the first bank in Heber City, in 1904, and was also a stockholder of Heber Mercantile Co. He also did a great deal to improve the management of grazing lands in Strawberry Valley for sheep and cattle men of Wasatch County.

Maud had her hands full caring for her 14 children.

The Smiths moved to Salt Lake City in 1908.

EPHRAIM AND NANCY ELIZABETH BETHERS SMITH



Ephraim Smith was born in September, 1833, in Tennessee, son of Richard and Diana Bragtal.

He married Nancy Elizabeth Betheres on September 28, 1852, and they were parents of 12 children.

Ephraim died on December 28, 1898.

Nancy died on September 4, 1931.

She was a daughter of Zadock S. and Sarah Collins Betheres. She moved to Council Bluffs and was there six years before leaving for Utah in the fall of 1852 with her parents in the Joseph Cuthouse company.

Sarah Collins Betheres, the mother, was a weaver, so she brought her spinning wheel and looms, also wool, yarn and thread. Sarah and her daughters, Mary Jane and Nancy Elizabeth, carded the wool, spun thread and wove cloth from which clothing for all the family was made. Pioneers around St. George planted cotton and flax from seed they brought with them, and they sent some of these products to the weavers in Heber to be used in weaving cloth.

Nancy's sister, Mary Jane, and Asa B.

York were married on her (Nancy's) wedding day, at Provo, by James E. Snow.

Ephraim's parents crossed the plains to Utah in 1850. His mother walked the entire distance, because she was afraid of buffalo stampeding through the wagon trains.

In 1860, Ephraim and Nancy, with their family, moved to Heber City, where they built a log cabin and later a large cabin used as a fort to protect women and children. Indians were very bad. They stole cattle and horses and then brought them back, demanding money for them. They stole and returned one of Ephraim's horses five times. The last time he refused to give them money.

This condition finally became intolerable, so the matter was taken up with Brigham Young by Ephraim Smith, who stated that it was absolutely necessary that something be done to stop this depredation. A meeting between the whites and Indians was called. Chief Tabby and some of his braves came in and camped at Ephraim's place. Nancy and other women cooked for them.

At the meeting the Indians were told that if they did not stop stealing, the settlers would have to call out the soldiers and the Indians would be killed. The Indians agreed not to steal any more and the "peace pipe" was passed to all present.

Ephraim had the first and only tannery in Heber. He learned his trade in Tennessee before coming to Utah. He stripped bark from oak trees in the canyons near Heber and hauled to the tannery. He used the Hopper mill to grind the bark, the first mill used to grind flour for the Smiths and others and was the only flour mill for some time. Mr. Smith employed five men at his tannery, making harnesses and shoes and mending shoes. He also made fiddles and violins.

When the Salt Lake Temple was started he sent a team to help in the work and he hauled sandstone rock from Heber for the foundation. He used a spirit level to level a canal which brought water from Provo River into the valley for irrigation purposes.

They were the parents of 12 children: David Ephraim, Hetty Esther Ann, Millie Jane, Joseph Marion, William Albert, James Andrew, Sarah Dinah, Thomas Edward,

HEBER BIOGRAPHIES

Smith married Mary Ann Davis Moulton, wife of William Denton Moulton (deceased), who had four children to add to the Smith household: William Davis Moulton, Moroni Davis Moulton, Elizabeth, Hyrum Moulton.

Then to this union were born four more children: Olive Elsie, Blanche Louise, Luella and Earl H.

In 1895, this family moved to Park City, where he conducted a successful meat and grocery business. While there he served as mayor of Park City and chairman of the Board of County Commissioners of Summit County. He served in several Church capacities, including the High Council of Summit Stake.

In 1911 they moved back to Heber and opened a meat market just west of the Wave Publishing Company. Since returning to Heber he has served two terms in the City Council. He acted as building inspector of many of our modern structures, including the Wasatch High School. He served as a member of the bishopric in both Charleston and Heber First Wards. He served as chaplain in the state Senate. He was always a devout believer in prayer and was a man of strong character.

George Smith was a family man, and it was always a source of regret to him that his people in England felt as they did when he joined the Church. Thirty-five years after he came to this country he returned to England with Uncle Nymphus Murdock, to visit his folks. At first they refused to acknowledge or identify him. They said he was not that small, thin-faced boy who left England in 1871; that he was an impostor who had come to deceive and lead them into Mormonism. He was only successful in proving his identity by singing a song to an elderly aunt, the song she taught him as a small boy.

Perhaps the most outstanding characteristic of his life was his loyalty. He was loyal to his country, loyal to his Church, his friends and family. George Smith never grew old in mind. He died 91 years young, March 23, 1943.

BEAUTIFUL UPON THE MOUNTAINS

lives, except for six years spent in McHenry Canyon, near Park City. Joe was a good farmer and captured prizes at state and county fairs for his potatoes.

Isabell was a very humble woman. She was a good singer and sang in choirs. She was set apart by Thomas Rasband as a teacher in the first Primary in Heber City. Her teachers in school were Sam Wing and William Buys. They had only one arithmetic book for all the grades. The musicians for entertainment were Ephraim Smith, Henry Walker and Jim Wheeler.

THOMAS C. SMITH



Thomas C. Smith was the son of Richard Smith and Dianna Brazel. He was born in Gibson County, Tennessee, on February 25, 1825. When about fifteen years of age, he, with his parents, moved to Nauvoo, Illinois. His parents had joined the Latter-day Saints some time before.

They lived in Nauvoo from 1842 to 1846, when the Mormon people were compelled to leave their homes and cross the Mississippi River into the state of Iowa. Later, the Smith family managed in some way to move to Mount Pisgah, a temporary Mormon settlement some thirty miles west of Nauvoo. There they could secure outfits with which to go to the Rocky Mountains. Joseph Smith had prophesied they would go and become a mighty people, building many towns and cities. Thomas C. Smith saw the prophet and patriarch many times in life and also their dead bodies after they had been cruelly murdered by the mob in